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NEWS RELEASE

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Tuesday, January 18, 2000

The Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Mexican Consulate Announce Joint Pilot Program

CHICAGO, IL. - Brian R. Perryman, District Director of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) in Chicago, and Heriberto Galindo, Consul General of Mexico in Chicago, announced today the distribution of a new informational brochure to Mexican nationals traveling to the United States through O'Hare International Airport. The distribution of this brochure is a pilot program aimed at informing Mexicans traveling into the United States of their rights and responsibilities when entering the country. This publication will facilitate the inspection process through America's #1 rated international airport.

This brochure, which was developed by the INS in conjunction with the Mexican government at Chicago, explains the immigration process that a foreign national will encounter at the port of entry and provides information on where to go in case the traveler encounters difficulties at O'Hare Airport in the immigration process. This brochure is now being distributed by Mexicana Airlines to travelers when boarding flights in Mexico destined to Chicago's O'Hare International Airport. It is anticipated that in the future the distribution of this brochure will be expanded to all commercial airlines flying from Mexico to Chicago.

"It is expected that all foreign passengers entering the US understand what is required of them from the Immigration Service when they arrive," stated District Director Brian R. Perryman, "we are very grateful to the Mexican government for working so closely with us in preparing such a wonderful and informative brochure, as well as to Mexicana Airlines who has agreed to begin the distribution of this publication."

District Director Perryman is confident that this initiative can be duplicated with local consulates of other foreign governments. The development of this brochure is part of the Mechanism of Consultation between the United States Immigration Service and the Government of Mexico, an agreement signed between the two governments aimed at fostering a closer working relationship in order to share information and discuss major immigration issues affecting both governments.

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